

**Fact Sheet:  
U.S.-Chile Defense Cooperation**

The United States shares a strong defense cooperation relationship with Chile. The United States remains committed to supporting Chile's defense reforms and modernization, and seeks to advance our partnership beyond the high level of cooperation we currently enjoy.

Examples of U.S.-Chilean defense cooperation include:

- **Military exercises and exchanges.** U.S. and Chilean defense institutions are connected through active exchanges of personnel, and a strong history of cooperative training. Our forces work together with other nations in multinational exercises that focus on missions such as maritime operations, peacekeeping, and the security of the Panama Canal.
- **Peacekeeping Operations.** Chile is a highly effective and significant contributor to United Nations peacekeeping operations, including in Haiti, where Chilean forces worked alongside United States and other nations' military personnel following the 2010 earthquake. Chile has been a partner with the United States in providing peacekeeping training to other countries. The United States has invited Chile to become a partner in the Global Peace Operations Initiative with a goal of further enabling Chile to provide training to third countries to increase those countries' abilities to contribute to peace operations.
- **State Partnership Program.** Chile participates in the U.S. National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program with Texas, a relationship formally established in April 2009. The Chile-Texas partnership specifically focuses on four project areas: airlift capabilities during crisis response; defense support to civilian authorities; diver/port of entry security; and reserve affairs legislative support.
- **Defense Trade.** Since 2008, Chile has purchased over \$180 million in military materiel from the United States, bringing the total value of Foreign Military Sales cases during the past twenty years to nearly \$1 billion.
- **Countering proliferation.** Chile has endorsed the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) and has participated in PSI-related exercises with the United States and other countries.
- **Defense Reform.** Chile is undertaking important reforms as a result of its Defense Reform Law that was enacted in 2010. The United States and Chile exchange concepts in support of Chile's efforts to develop greater jointness among the services in Chile's armed forces.
- **Defense Talks.** DoD and Chile's Ministry of Defense convene annual meetings of the Defense Consultative Commission (DCC), which provides oversight for defense cooperation and a forum to discuss issues of common interest. The next DCC meeting is scheduled for June 2011 in Washington, D.C. Joint Staff Talks are held annually with Chile as well.
- **Visits.** Secretary Gates visited Chile in November 2010. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mullen, all U.S. Service chiefs, and the Commander of U.S. Southern Command have visited Chile in the past two years.